

Tavern  
Lake County  
Halfway, Illinois

HABS ILL. 139

HABS  
ILL,  
49-HAFDA,  
1-

*Reduced Copies of Measured Drawings*

PHOTOGRAPHS  
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA  
District No. Ill.1.

Historic American Buildings Survey  
Earl H. Reed, District Officer  
435 North Michigan Ave., Chicago

TAVERN

Halfday, Lake County, Illinois

Owner: Mr. Myron Moore.

Date of Erection: About 1843.

Architect: Unknown.

Builder: Unknown.

Present Condition: Good.

Number of Stories: Two.

Materials of Construction: Wood. Two sections added later.

Other Existing Records: Photographs.

Additional Data: (See following pages)

had acquired it from Mr. Henry Carson, who had purchased it from Mr. Fred Hertel. It has been impossible to go back further than this and discover the original builder. Mr. Moore states that the earliest portion is that on the south-east, which was built about 1843. Mr. Hertel added that portion on the north-east in 1856. This addition gave a dining room and a ball room on the second floor. At about the same time the addition on the southwest was added. Mr. Carson erected the latest portion, that on the northwest some time about 1860.

The interior has been remodelled extensively, and since 1883 it has been used as a residence rather than as a tavern. Consequently all of the appurtenances proper to the tavern have disappeared.

By Richard Woolf

Approved Emerson

TAVERN  
LAKE COUNTY  
HALFDAY ILLINOISDISTRICT NO. ILL. 1.  
NORTHERN ILLINOISEARL H. REED  
DISTRICT OFFICER

Project No. Ill. 139

R.J. Wall  
H. Stewart LeonardSOURCEHalsey, John:  
History of  
Lake County  
p. 434

This tavern presents difficult problems; dates, the builders, and even the location of the tavern is uncertain. The early references are vague and conflicting. There have been a number of changes in nomenclature with resulting confusion. This building is located at the intersection of the two main roads which forms the nucleus of Halfday. The name of this town was derived from the name of an Indian who was reputed to have made a day's journey in half a day; or according to another source this marked a half day's journey between Chicago and Milwaukee on the stage route. Perhaps this building may be identified with the following reference: "The Old 'Yankee Tavern' was built upon this road (the road from what is now Wauconda to Halfday) by Erastus Houghton, who came in the fall of 1836."

The editor of the "Little Fort Porcupine and Democratic Banner" travelled through this country and reported his observations in the issue of August 2, 1856. He mentions a hotel kept by Davis C. Steele as a four story building with room for fifty guests and a grand ballroom. Although he was speaking of the country in and around Halfday, it seems that this must refer to some other building.

Mr. Myron  
Moore.

The present owner and occupant, Mr. Myron Moore, purchased this property in 1883 from Mr. Henry Wells, who